

# Arrange for proper transportation and disposal

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## **Before you send your hazardous waste away.....**

There are a few things you should know. The goal of the Dangerous Waste Regulations (Chapter 173-303 WAC) is to ensure that we manage our hazardous wastes in a manner that protects our health and environment. As a generator of hazardous waste, you have responsibilities under these regulations for the safe transportation and disposal of your wastes.

## **What is legal?**

You should carefully consider your options for managing hazardous wastes. Waste reduction and recycling are preferable to disposal because they reduce the potential for environmental damage and they minimize your liability for future problems associated with your wastes.

In addition to the Department of Ecology (Ecology), your trade association, waste haulers and management facilities can help you understand your regulatory obligations and choose the best waste management options. **When you seek outside help, make sure the source is reliable and legitimate.** Cost shouldn't be the only consideration. The generator of waste is liable for its proper management, even after the waste is picked up.

**Regulated generators, or fully regulated generators** typically *generate* more than 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month *or accumulate* more than 2200 pounds of hazardous waste at any time<sup>1</sup>. Regulated generators must hire a waste transporter that has a RCRA Identification Number (see Checklist Fact Sheet 2).

Regulated generators must make sure their hazardous wastes are handled at:

- a treatment, storage or disposal (TSD) facility that has a permit or is operating under “interim-status” while the permit application is reviewed, or
- a facility which legitimately recycles or reclaims hazardous wastes.

**Small quantity generators** never *generate* more than 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month *OR* never *accumulate* on the premises more than 2200 pounds of hazardous waste. 220 pounds equals about one-half of a 55-gallon drum. Small quantity generators can send their wastes to a facility approved by their Local Moderate Risk Waste Plan, such as a:

- permitted moderate risk waste facility;
- municipal or industrial solid waste facility, with local health department approval;
- legitimate recycler; or
- the sanitary sewer, but only with permission from the local sewer utility.

Call your county's solid waste or planning department for details.

## **Wrapping it up.**

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<sup>1</sup> 1 or 2.2 pounds of certain pesticides or poisons.

Before you offer your hazardous waste for transport off the premises, you must package, label, mark, and placard the shipment according to the U.S. Department of Transportation's Hazardous Material Regulations (49 CFR Parts 172, 173, 178, and 179). The transporter and/or facility you select can usually help you choose the required:

- **package or container** for safe transport of the waste;
- diamond-shaped **label** which identifies the hazardous properties of the waste (e.g., flammable liquid, explosives);
- **marking**, including the proper shipping name and number of the waste; and
- large, diamond-shaped **placards** for the outside of the transportation vehicle which identify the hazardous characteristics of the cargo.

Mark each package or container holding 110 gallons of waste or less with your name and address, the Manifest Document Number (see Checklist Fact Sheet 9), and the following words:

- **Either:** "Hazardous Waste State and federal law prohibits improper disposal."
- **Or:** "Washington State Dangerous Waste —State law prohibits improper disposal."
- **And:** "If found, contact the nearest police or public safety authority, and the Washington State Department of Ecology or the United States Environmental Protection Agency."

### **Decisions, decisions.**

Don't forget to complete a **Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest** if you are a regulated generator (see Checklist Fact Sheet 9).

Now that you know the legal requirements for managing hazardous waste, you'll need to decide what makes sense for each of your wastes. **Disposal is not the only, or the best option.** Some of your wastes may be recyclable, such as antifreeze, solvents and spent lead-acid batteries. And recycling can save you money.

The ideal of course is not to generate the waste in the first place. **Waste reduction** can be as simple as keeping hazardous and non-hazardous wastes segregated because when they are mixed, you create a larger volume of hazardous waste. You can get other waste reduction information by:

- Calling Clark County Environmental Services at 360-397-6118 ext. 4352
- calling Ecology's Hazardous Substance Information toll-free hotline at **1-800-633-7585**; or
- talking with your trade association, others in the same business or Hazardous Waste Specialists at Ecology about the legal waste management methods that are best for your wastes.